

# POSITIVELY PRO-LIFE

CALGARY PRO-LIFE ASSOCIATION

WINTER 2020



ARTWORK BY DONA GELSINGER  
PRINTS AND GIFTS AVAILABLE AT [GLOWDECOR.COM](http://GLOWDECOR.COM)

*Dona Gelsinger ©*

As the Holy Family  
Rejoiced on that  
First Christmas Eve

May Your  
Celebration of the  
Gift of Life  
be filled with  
**Hope, Peace,**  
**Joy, and Love.**

Through your membership, financial support and prayers, we present life-affirming, pro-life educational resource programs to thousands of students in their schools and communities. God bless you and your family this Christmas, and always.

**Mary said “Yes” to life and changed history...**



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Calgary Pro-Life

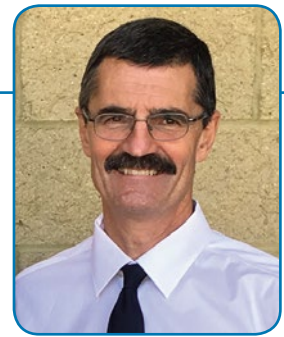
Life-Affirming Educational Resource Programs  
[www.calgaryprolife.com](http://www.calgaryprolife.com)

# President's Message

Christmas is always a special time of year! It was destined to be so. When we, the people of Earth, seem to be furthest from God, He ordains the coming of His Son to draw us back to Him. Every year we seem to feel this attraction, and see it at work also in others.

I fondly remember the family time that is always associated with Christmas. In my youth, my brothers and sisters would gather at our parent's home and spend quality family time with our closest allies in this life. We would attend Christmas Mass at midnight and usher in the solemnity of this angelic time of year. Gift giving is also a hallmark of the Christmas season as we respond to the impulse to emulate our good God who blessed us with the great gift of His Son. Often, extended family members would make their annual visit to share the events of their lives with us. We would play games and enjoy the latest presents received at Christmas. Christmas is a special time of year!

Even world wars were known to be interrupted as men and women of faith responded to the supernatural peace that accompanies the Christmas season. There are movies that reenact the Holy Truce of Christmas Day in 1914 when combatants in World War I ceased combat and exchanged pleasantries. Sadly, the war continued for another 4+ years, but the message of peace that Christmas Day remains. Hopefully, we will one day understand that peace is promised to all men and women of good will. In this is the true secret to world peace.



As the world health pandemic (COVID-19) continues to disrupt our normal activities, let us pray for God's will to be fulfilled in our times. This assures that we are aligned with God's goodness despite our personal difficulties. Let us pray for the grace to be open to whatever is required to make us the children of God we are destined to be. Our own challenges in life are often mirrored in the lives of those we encounter. By reaching out to others in need, we often satisfy our own needs as we exchange the gifts of faith, hope, and love. The Christmas season is our annual opportunity to reach out to others.

I often recall that my greatest Christmas present was not really a present, but rather a Christmas presence. Let us all hope and pray that the Spirit that reigns during Christmas will stay with each of us throughout the year, until the next Christmas season. We at Calgary Pro-Life Association, wish you and your families a Happy and Holy Christmas Season. We hope you receive the fruits of this season and pass them on to others.

*Paul O'Leary, President*

## We are pro-life when we...

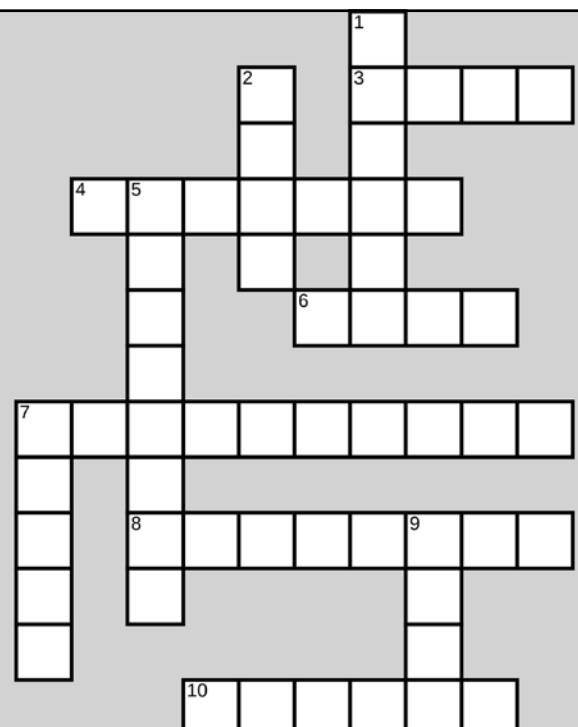
### CLUES

#### Across

- 3 Respect \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Give water to those who are \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 \_\_\_\_\_ the hungry
- 7 Care for those who are elderly or \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 Welcome the \_\_\_\_\_
- 10 Pray for unborn \_\_\_\_\_ and their parents

#### Down

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_ the naked
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ the dead
- 5 Shelter the \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_ those who are in prison
- 9 \_\_\_\_\_ to the poor





# A Pro-Life Christmas

*Mary said "Yes" to life, and Jesus was born!*

H J Z I N A L R N W E T E K E H T U D U  
 O E E E L X B W A N K M N P P Y L M H O  
 L N C S M A R Y T U F F M E O E S F J Y  
 Y Z U M U L Z R I P A O S A V H J O K Z  
 F P Z W H S U D V Z N O U O N D M F D A  
 A Y G E L K B G I D J O L U Q U A T D L  
 M X I N C V P D T J P Y J C P Z E R F Y  
 I F F J E E L U Y O E B S T C Y E L D F  
 L P T G F M Q A D Y A Y D H J J H H M F  
 Y W A T I A V C C B C O X B O T S H Z Y  
 F J N G L U T G Y U E H Y I N M L Z E V  
 N E M E S I W D S A Q S C M E R E S H U  
 Q P X H L K Y C L T I E P Z J Y G U O N  
 D I P P S M S S C S A V I O U R N I U I  
 C H R I S T M A S V S R B K Z K A B Z G

ADVENT

ANGELS

BABY

CHRISTMAS

EMMANUEL

GIFT

HOLY FAMILY

HOPE

JESUS

JOSEPH

JOY

LIFE

LOVE

MARY

NATIVITY

PEACE

REJOICE

SAVIOUR

STAR

WISE MEN

YES



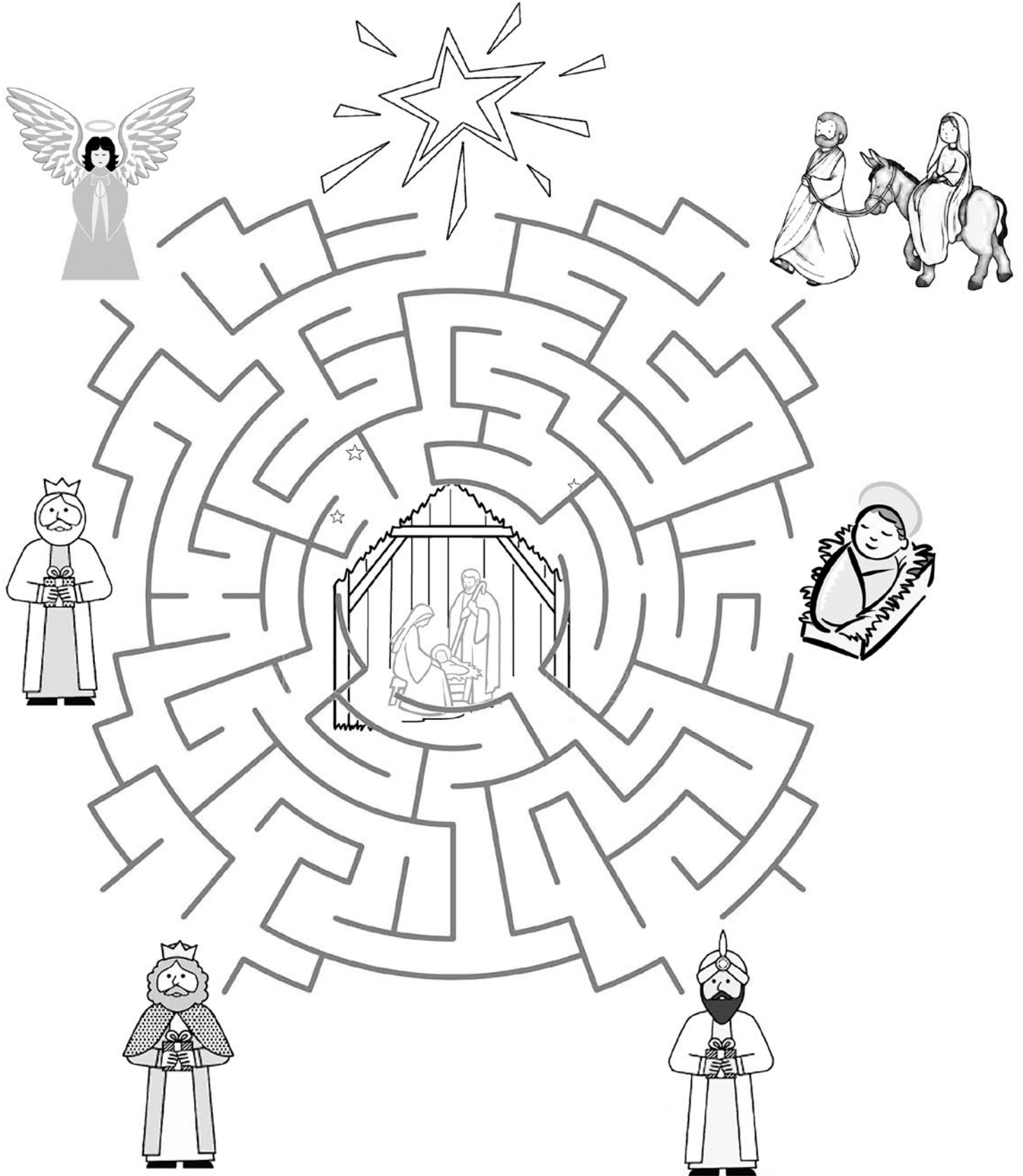
PLAN to JOIN US at the [41st ANNUAL HIKE FOR LIFE!](#)

MAY 8, 2021 • Prince's Island Park • 8:30 a.m. - Noon\*  
 or, a Virtual Hike for Life (as in 2020)

\*We have booked the venue, however, we will respect any City restrictions that may continue to be in place at that time. Details to be announced later.



*Colour all the characters of the Holy Nativity Story  
and show them the path to the Stable where Jesus is born!*



# Calgary Pro-Life Review

by Monique Achtman, Educational Resource Consultant



It may seem like common sense that we teach our young people to take care of the physical, social, mental, emotional, and spiritual aspects of their lives. For example we take care of our 'physical aspect' by taking a shower, getting dressed in the morning, eating healthy meals, and being chaste. Common sense, yes, but the reasons are grounded in a respect for our own mother's "yes" to the gift of our life. We also know that our life is a gift from God, and recognizing this, we must care for ourselves, and each other.

During COVID-19, we have all been challenged to meet the needs of our social aspects as we have had to focus on physical distancing. But we've also experienced different ways to meet with our family and friends and this has been fruitful in many ways. Our mental (intellectual) aspect has been strengthened by our desire to learn via online

courses; by reading books; cooking new recipes; working on crafts, puzzles, or playing board games. We've even making long over-due telephone calls to family and friends.

We've become creative in engaging our emotional aspect by reflecting on our own feelings during this stressful time, and by having empathy for the feelings of others. We pray that we will survive this pandemic, and see our friends and family again in the ways that connected us before we conscientiously obeyed the rules of isolation for the sake of health for everyone.

We make a 'pro-life effort' to protect ourselves and those around us when we are in public places by wearing a mask, washing our hands frequently, and using hand sanitizer to lower the risk of catching anything from the

common cold, to the more potentially dangerous COVID-19 virus.

We continue to nurture our spiritual aspect when we take the time to journal; to channel the artist within; to use words and actions to express our feelings in all our relationships; and to attend church services, prayer groups and meetings that are still being hosted online connecting us in faith.

We missed sharing our presentations at the schools during what would have been our busiest months, March until June. Now, following strict guidelines and rules, students returned to school in September. The good news is that teachers are sending in booking requests for the respect-life presentations starting in February 2021.

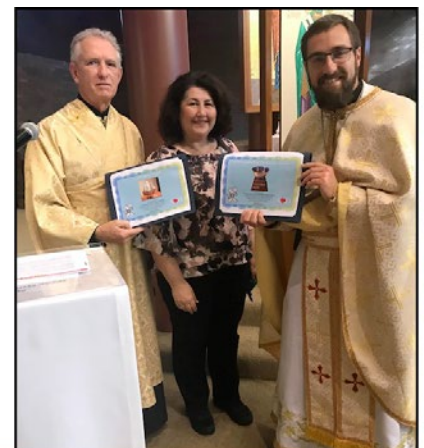
## Hike for Life Trophy Presentations & Thank You!

by Monique Achtman, Educational Resource Consultant

We are grateful for the support we received at the Virtual 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Hike for Life last May! Usually we present the trophies to the winning parishes, CWL and Knights of Columbus at their respective council meetings. This year, of course, was different!

During a CWL regional meeting online where I gave a presentation and announced the winners of the trophies. Holy Spirit CWL received their trophy when I presented it "show and tell" style at their monthly Zoom meeting. St. Peter's Parish and their CWL council received their trophies during a Sunday Mass; as did St. Stephen Protomartyr Ukrainian parish and their St. Nicholas Knights of Columbus council. St. John Choir Schola won the trophy for the school with the most participation and we still haven't had the opportu-

nity to present the trophy formally. All other awards and certificates have been sent out by mail.





## CHRISTMAS CAMPAIGN

The Christmas campaign has started!  
Your support helps us to update and share  
educational, pro-life presentations  
and resources with students in schools.

To donate, please visit [www.calgaryprolife.com](http://www.calgaryprolife.com)

["Christmas Campaign"](#)

Calgary Pro-Life Office • (403) 243-0691

## Calgary Pro-Life Assn. Membership & Donation – 2021

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Method of Contact: ☐ Email ☐ Phone

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Province \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Type: ☐ Student \$10 ☐ Adult \$20 ☐ Family \$30

Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CHARITABLE B/N: 10683-0995-RR0001

## Positively Pro-Life Newsletter

I would like to receive the newsletter by:

☐ Email

☐ Canada Post

☐ Both

☐ I would like to share a "pro-life witness" story in the newsletter

*Praise to You, Lord God,*

*You made the journey of the unborn  
child. By being an embryo, a fetus, and  
a newborn, you joined all unborn and  
newborn children to you.*

*From the beginning of history, O Lord,  
You are the Creator of every human life.  
Let this Christmas fill all of us with awe  
and wonder at how close human life is  
to You. Let our Christmas joy be the joy  
of welcoming every human life. Amen.*

priestsforlife.org

## UPCOMING DATES

**December 25 • Blessed Christmas Day**  
Celebrating Mary's "Yes" and the birth of  
our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**May 8 • 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Hike for Life**  
Place and time TBA.



**May 2021 • Life Week**  
Dates and times TBA  
Prayers, presentations, liturgies, and  
petitions for increased respect for  
all human life from conception until  
natural death.

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EMAIL: [pro-life@shaw.ca](mailto:pro-life@shaw.ca)

RENEW MEMBERSHIPS AND  
DONATE ON OUR WEBSITE:  
[www.calgaryprolife.com](http://www.calgaryprolife.com)

Thank you for your  
continued support!

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Calgary Pro-Life